

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 9, which starts with “...” with the following amended paragraph.

Figure 4 shows a file-~~tree~~ structure comprising the original file (the file A) and the derivative files thereof generated from various kinds of processing on the original file. In this example, the file A is sent to the Web server of the computer 100 to be stored as the file A1, and a file A2 is generated from processing of color conversion on the file A. Reduction processing on the file A2 generates a file A3. As shown in Figure 4, when the file A is sent to the computer 100, the accompanying information (hereinafter referred to as accompanying information F1) of the file A is generated, comprising the link information “file A1, URL-100”, and the processing content information representing “copying”. Therefore, the accompanying information F1 indicates the fact that the file A1 generated from the file A was sent to URL-100. At the same time, the accompanying information of the file A1 (hereinafter referred to as accompanying information F1’) sent to and stored in the computer 100 comprises the link information “file A, IP address J1”, and the processing content information representing “copied from the file A”. Therefore, the accompanying information F1’ of the file A1 represents the fact that the file A1 was generated by copying the file A in the computer having the IP address J1. Since the file A1 is a copy of the file A, the content (referred to as B1 in Figure 4) of the file A1 is the same as the content (referred to as B0 in Figure 4) of the file A.